

THE NASHVILLE GLOBE.

"All things come to them that wait, providing they nestle while they wait"—Charles W. Anderson. "Get out of our sunshine."—R. Z. Boyd.

VOL. III.

NASHVILLE, TENN., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1908.

No. 6.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF TENNESSEE

State Fair Holds Enthusiastic Mass Meeting.

LARGE NUMBER OF DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE.

PRESIDENT J. C. NAPIER REPORT-ED BRIGHT PROSPECTS—HAD VISITED SEVERAL TOWNS IN THE STATE—COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATIONS EXPRESS A WILLINGNESS TO CO-OPERATE WITH THE STATE ORGANIZATION—MEMBERS OF LADIES' AUXILIARY PRESENT.

The Tennessee Colored Fair Association held a mass meeting in the Odd Fellows Auditorium on last Tuesday night with President Napier in the chair, and J. Thomas Turner, Secretary. Elder Preston Taylor invoked the blessings of God upon the deliberations of the Association. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The following Directors of the Association were present: G. B. Taylor, S. P. Harris, P. R. Burrus, Isaiah Smith, Jr., J. B. Bosley, L. Burford, S. H. Reeves, B. J. Carr, I. L. Moore, C. N. Langston, Preston Taylor, G. F. Anderson, J. C. Napier, T. Clay Moore, R. F. Boyd, J. Frank Battle, G. W. McKissack, J. Thomas Turner. The officers of the Woman's Department with a number of members gave grace to the meeting. Several visitors were in attendance.

Mr. Napier, the President, spoke of his visit to Gallatin, Tenn., stating that while there he had an opportunity to talk with some of the officers of the Gallatin Fair Association, who expressed themselves as being desirous of taking a part with the Tennessee Colored Fair Association.

Mr. Turner, the Secretary, stated that Mr. A. Thomas Hill, Principal of the Pulaski Public School, Secretary of the Knights of Pythias Endowment Board of Tennessee, and Secretary of the Giles County Fair Association, and Dr. J. W. Whitfield, of Mt. Pleasant, Tenn., one of the business men of that section of the State and Secretary of Maury County Fair Association, were in his office a few days ago, and that both gentlemen invited a correspondence with the Tennessee Colored Fair Association, and promised co-operation, if such was desired by the said Association.

The Corresponding Secretary, J. Frank Battle, was instructed to correspond with the authorities of the Association referred to at his earliest convenience.

The Committee to confer with Rev. Preston Taylor about a written contract for Greenwood Park to hold the Fair, reported progress through its chairman, J. C. Napier, who asked for further time to make a final report as to terms for the park, as certain facts and figures were to be ascertained in the premises, before a written contract could be drawn in proper form satisfactory to all parties concerned. He went on to mention the different buildings Elder Taylor proposes to erect on the grounds, mentioning what each one would be used for, if suitable for the things named, subject to a change. He further stated that the committee's conference with Elder Taylor was quite an agreeable one, and thus far could say that the terms for securing the park would be reached most amicably and with satisfaction to the Association and Elder Taylor. The Committee was allowed further time.

The Secretary was ordered to get stationery for the Association and the Woman's Department.

Upon request Mrs. Preston Taylor, President of the Woman's Department, was called to speak on behalf of the women as to their interest in the work for the success of the Fair. She served notice that the women were in earnest, as they had already held two meetings, which were full of enthusiasm. Mrs. Taylor then called upon her Secretary, Mrs. C. N. Langston, to read the minutes of the two sessions held by them. The proceedings, as read, were replete with words of encouragement and showed deep thought and manifest interest, to an extent that moved the men to hearty applause as an approval of all the good things that were embodied in the

minutes of the two meetings of the women. The minutes showed that the women's department has a membership of twenty-five, composed of some of the moving spirits of the homes of Nashville, and of the different churches and societies, both secret and benevolent and in every walk of life. The ladies were tendered a rising vote of thanks for their well begun work and activity in the interest of the Fair.

The meeting adjourned to meet Tuesday night, February 25, at Odd Fellows Auditorium.

CALL OF NATIONAL POLITICAL SUFFRAGE CONFERENCE OF COLORED AMERICANS.

The positive and notoriously hostile attitude of the government of our republic toward its citizens of color under the present Republican administration and the approach of the party nominating conventions in this year 1908 produce a crisis for one-eighth of the citizenship of these United States of America. The open alliance between the President and the nullifiers of the Constitution in the South constitutes the most flagrant collusion between a Republican President and the Southern Democrats since the emancipation of the American slaves 45 years ago, save in the case of Andrew Johnson at the close of the Civil War or of Rutherford B. Hayes at the close of the Reconstruction. But it has remained for the present chief executive of the United States to prescribe in official documents an inferior grade of education for one class of citizens, and to thus officially brand that class as concealers of criminals and as rapists, while the defaming and discharging in disgrace of more than a hundred soldiers, all colored, without a trial or chance to be heard in their own defense is a denial of justice and constitutional rights visited upon colored citizens unprecedented in our country's history. The placing of the nation's sanction upon the segregation of citizens for and because of color in public travel but completes the Federal maltreatment of the colored citizens under the present Republican administration, leaving him stripped of rights, branded and in contempt.

In view of these unusual and extraordinary conditions, in view of the attempt of the present Czarocratic regime to perpetuate itself in power in imperial fashion, in view of the open candidacy for the Republican party's nomination for the presidency of one who in his official position as a cabinet officer has in public speech in the South condoned their disfranchisement of citizens for color in admitted violation of the federal constitution, and who has supinely endorsed in toto the brutal and autocratic discharge of colored soldiers without trial by executive decree, you as one of a class which almost from necessity has for two generations by its solid support and with a loyalty that sacrifices friends, the chance to make terms with the enemy and even life itself, kept the Republican party almost continuously in power, but one who is free from party obligation, are invited to a National Conference of colored men, and of avowed friends to be held in the City of Philadelphia, Pa., on the 7th day of April, 1908, to counsel together as to the wisest course to be pursued politically by the colored citizens of the country especially those unrobbed of the ballot who are willing to use this weapon for the rights and liberties of their class, under the present abnormal condition of affairs.

This conference will have special reference to what demands shall be made of political parties as to the national platform and most particularly to what candidates for the presidential nomination most deserve the support of the colored voters. Please come prepared to make a stand for equal rights and for constitutional liberty for all in these United States without regard to race, color or creed.

(Signed)
ALEXANDER WALTERS,
President of the Afro-American Council.

WILLIAM H. SCOTT,
President of the Suffrage League of Boston and vicinity.

WILLIAM MONROE TROTTER,
President of the New England Constitution and Suffrage League.

SARDON CHAPEL NOTES.

Master Luther A. Dowell, son of Rev. R. A. Dowell, is on the sick list. The "barrell entertainment" given by Mrs. Lee, assisted by Mrs. R. W. Watkins, was quite a success. Rev. R. F. Chambers was recently presented with a barrel of groceries. The city has extended the electric lights and put one light in front of the church.

NASHVILLE & HUNTSVILLE

Bill For Right of Way into City Before Council.

THAT THAT BODY WILL GRANT PRIVILEGE SEEMS CERTAIN.

COLLECTING OF SUBSCRIPTIONS TO BE STARTED AT ONCE—ABOUT \$50,000 TO BE PAID BY DAVIDSON COUNTIANS TO INSURE PROJECT—MANY PROMINENT NEGROES HAVE SUBSCRIBED—ALL OF THEM WILL PAY ON DEMAND—A NEW ERA DAWNS IN THE BUSINESS CAREER OF RACE.

"There can be no doubt that Nashville is now marching steadily on to the realms of fame and is to be one of the great cities of the world. She is now rated among the historic places of this southland. Her record and the battles fought in and around this vicinity during the past gives her no mean place in the eyes of the people," said a traveling man the other day, when he saw the movement to bring the new railroad to this city, and was informed of the concessions already made for it by the people and the city. "When this road enters Nashville there will be at least ten Negro stockholders representing a holding of several thousands of dollars." This alone shows that in the dawn of this new age of development, the Negro citizen of Nashville is showing himself equally as interested as any people. He is doing his part well. There will be more activity when more encouragement is given. Such men as Preston Taylor, J. C. Napier, R. F. Boyd, W. A. Crosthwait, John Grant, R. H. Boyd and others who subscribed for stock in the new road, make it possible for great holdings for the Negro. An account of the new movements would no doubt interest property owners:

A bill granting the Nashville & Huntsville Railroad a right of way into Nashville was introduced into the City Council Thursday night by Councilmen I. P. Cohen and J. R. Mason, and the matter of collecting Nashville subscriptions will be started at once, R. S. Hollins, Jr., being Chairman of the Stock Subscriber's Committee. If Nashville subscriptions to the amount of something like \$42,000 are promptly paid the contractor is ready to begin work by March 1. No doubt is entertained regarding the passage of the bill in the Council, and whether or not the road will be built depends on the Nashville subscribers.

Marshall County has \$58,000 ready; Giles has \$45,000 in bank and agrees on call to put \$5,000 more, and T. W. Pratt, of Madison County, Ala., says his county's subscription of \$50,000 will be ready next week.

Chairman Hollins, assisted by L. B. Fite and probably others, will collect and receive the local subscription and deposit all moneys to his credit as Chairman in a local bank, none of the money to be used until the terms of the receipt which will be given have been complied with. The receipt is worded as follows:

"Said payment is made to R. S. Hollins, Jr., Chairman of the Stock Subscribers' Committee, to be deposited by him, in his name, as Chairman, in Bank, and so held on deposit by him until I. L. McCord, the contractor for building the Nashville & Huntsville Railway, shall deposit in said bank approved standard securities in amount sufficient to secure the subscriber the repayment of the amount paid by the subscriber, with interest at the rate of 4 per cent per annum, with a contract of hypothecation authorizing said bank to sell said securities so deposited, and out of the proceeds make repayment to each subscriber when and as herein provided. "Upon the deposit of said securities and contract of hypothecation with the bank in which the money paid by the subscribers shall be deposited, then said money so paid by subscribers shall be paid to I. L. McCord. "In case the contractor, I. L. McCord, shall default in the fulfillment of his contract—

"To build and complete said road, or

"Shall fail to commence the work of

construction within twenty days after as much as two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) of the local subscriptions along the line shall be paid into bank, or suspend or abandon it for sixty days, except such suspension shall be because of strikes or bona fide litigation, or

"Shall fail to complete said railroad according to contract, and turn it over to the Nashville & Huntsville Railway, within eighteen months from the date of commencing the work of construction,

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"OUT OF THE DEPTHS."

Folk Songs Cantata at Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Wednesday, Feb. 19. Origin and History of Folk Songs.

The rendition of "Out of the Depths" to be given at Mount Olive Baptist Church on Wednesday evening, February 19, will no doubt be largely attended. Nashville loves to do honor to a worthy cause; hence there is a twofold reason for expecting a large crowd. First, it is a Sunday school entertainment; second, the work is the production of home talent.

The Plantation Melodies, first given to the world by Jubilee Singers in 1871, have steadily, even if slowly, gained favor with all classes of people. Even the Negro himself, whose music this is, has little by little overcome his prejudice against it, notwithstanding this resentment sprang from the idea that these songs were very closely connected with slavery and all that slavery meant. These two, Plantation Music and slavery, have always been so intimately interwoven that it has been impossible for the first generation after slavery to separate them, and so, to keep the thoughts of bondage out of their minds these folk songs have outwardly almost been despised. Still away down in the Negro's heart there has been a smoldering coal of love for his own peculiar songs, which has been gradually fanned into a burning flame, by two forces, education and the knowledge that musicians of other peoples are studying it seriously. Indeed, it argues auspiciously that the educated Negro is learning to appreciate these songs, for it is his duty to preserve them, with their best and truest interpretation. Since they tell faithfully the Negro's innermost life, both intellectually and spiritually, they are the only true source of our history. If any man would read the Negro's life, let him study his songs. Never was a character more accurately portrayed than that pictured herein. And naturally enough it is strengthening its hold upon the Negro's religious nature and has a regular influence over him. If our ministers would more largely recognize this and act upon it, their power for saving souls would be correspondingly enlarged.

If there is any expression to describe this music fitly, this seems to be it: Syncopated. Rhythmic. Sacred Melody. This syncopation gives it a peculiar advantage in representing musically the idea of the words. For instance, in the song "Inching along" one can really see the inch-worm as he crawls. So it is with a large number of the songs. Rhythm! Omit that and you have lost an essential attribute. The very soul of the Negro is linked with Rhythm. So important a factor is this that in every imitation of the Negro's folk songs great stress is placed upon it. Every "rag" (which is a counterfeit of this music), is conspicuous for its rhythm. So natural is it and such a powerful hold has it upon the nature of the Negro that when he really sings in earnest he sings not only with his voice, but with his head, hands, feet and even his whole body. There is the clapping of hands, the patting of feet, the swaying of body, and to all of which his music is eminently adapted.

This bodily singing or truckkeeping contributes much amusement to strangers who visit the Negro churches where these songs are sung. The Negro is in dead earnest when he does it, but the stranger thinks it is fun. It is this idea that leads many people to imitate mockingly this music. The minstrel man blacks up his face and throws an audience into convulsions singing plantation melodies but he and the audience too, have missed the point: for if he ever sings these songs in the right spirit he will turn his show into a revival.

To sing this music effectively the singer must be in a solid frame of mind. Then, too, he must not try to sing; that is, he must not try to impress people with his voice or voice culture, but he must abandon himself entirely to his spiritual nature. This done there is no need for fear of failure.

REV. WILHITE PASSES AWAY

One of Alabama's Bright Lights is no More.

EMINENT IN CHURCH, SOCIAL AND STATE AFFAIRS.

GREAT CROWDS THROUG THE STREETS TO PAY HIM THEIR LAST RESPECTS—LEADING SECRET ORGANIZATIONS OF WHICH HE WAS A MEMBER DO HONOR TO THE DISTINGUISHED DIVINE—WAS FOR MANY YEARS PRESIDENT OF THE BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION.

Birmingham, Ala., February 10.—This city, commonly known as "The Pittsburgh of the South," was thrown into deep mourning on Saturday morning, caused by the death of Rev. John Quincy Adams Wilhite, D. D. While he had been sick for several months, much hope had been entertained for his recovery, and up to Friday evening it looked as though he would survive many days; but the end came peacefully Saturday morning, and the funeral services were held to-day in the auditorium of the Sixth Street Baptist Church, of which he had been pastor for twelve years. More than five thousand sympathizing friends and acquaintances surged in and around the church to pay their last respects. More than one hundred and fifty ministers from all denominations participated in the exercises. Representatives from the State and National Baptist Conventions were in attendance. The services were conducted by Rev. C. L. Fisher, D. D., who is an eminent friend of the family. The funeral sermon was preached by Rev. J. H. Eason, D. D., President of the Alabama Baptist State Convention. Other speakers at the services were Revs. C. M. Wells, R. T. Pollard, W. R. Pettiford, A. E. Williams, R. B. Hudson, W. C. Owens, Mrs. A. A. Bowie, H. A. Boyd, W. L. Howard, A. C. Jackson, P. H. Hughes and C. L. Fisher. Birmingham has not witnessed such a funeral. The floral designs and offerings were the most elaborate ever presented; a wagon load constituted the number. The deceased was a member of the Knights of Pythias, Good Samaritans and Masons. He had served as President of the Baptist State Convention for ten years and was identified with every movement in the state and city for the upbuilding of the race and his denomination, and the services were only in keeping with his standing as a leading man in the city and state. The condolence both in telegrams and letters came from all parts of the country. He leaves a wife, seven children, four boys and three girls. One of his sons, Chester, is a graduate of the Meharry Medical College of the class of 1907; the younger son, Cleopas, who is now a student at Meharry, was called home for the funeral services.

YOUNG MEN'S LITERARY CLUB.

On last Monday night, February 1, the members of the Young Men's Literary Club convened at the residence of Mr. Epperson Bonds, 1605 State street. The meeting was of a business nature and each member took an active part. One new member, Mr. Overton Carter, was received and welcomed. After the business was over Mr. Bond served refreshments, consisting of cakes, fruit, candies and other delicacies. The meeting then adjourned to meet at Mr. Samuel H. Rhodes' home on Monday, February 10. The meeting was well attended and the club welcomed Mr. A. N. Owen as a new member. Several of the members participated in a very interesting program on the "Life and Achievements of Shakespeare." Mr. Rhodes served a delicious light repast to the club, while his sister, Miss Bessie Rhodes, entertained with beautiful selections on the piano. The next meeting will be held at the residence of Mr. E. Leland Taylor, 114 Lewis street. The program will be as follows: Debate, "Should Poets be Deified by Lovers of their Works?" Affirmative, Messrs. Taylor and Rouse; Negative, Messrs. Carter and Alexander.